



North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

Dam repair may cost \$6 million, twice the estimate. The cost of repairing Clausen Springs Dam south of Valley City in North Dakota will be close to \$6 million — double the earlier estimate, engineers told the Barnes County Water Resource District. A \$3-million renovation had been slated for the earthen Clausen Springs Dam near Kathryn. But the engineers said July 21 that repairs will cost closer to \$6 million because of poor soil conditions. The town of Kathryn, 17 miles south of Valley City, has been waiting for action since the dam severely eroded during spring 2009 flooding. The town's 55 residents were forced to evacuate, while the National Guard dropped 1,000-pound sandbags on the spillway. Moore Engineering said the concrete structural spillway the company envisioned will require more concrete than expected, sharply increasing the cost. A more affordable fix that relies less on soil strengths would involve armoring the surface of the earthen spillway with concrete block. That strategy, however, does not comply with state regulations. Source: http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/36267/

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REGIONAL

(Minnesota) New crops could lessen nitrates. A proposed crop rotation could help with nitrate issues in the Park Rapids, Minnesota water supply. The water quality advisor with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, has been working with area producers to determine new activities that support wellhead protection. Last year, Park Rapids was notified well 7 had to be closed due to high nitrate levels. At that time, the city engineer said high nitrate levels appeared to be from area farms that used fertilizers. Over the last year, he said he has been working with producers in the area, including RD Offutt Co. and Becker Farms, about ways to alleviate nitrate contamination. Some changes have already been made but it could take years before those changes are reflected in nitrate levels. The area only affects the well that was closed. The proposed rotation would result in far less nitrogen use on the land and take two years out of intensive agriculture completely. The well might be reopened if nitrate levels are reduced. Source:

http://www.agweek.com/event/article/id/24430/publisher ID/15/

(Minnesota) Firefighters clean up chemical spill at Spee Dee Delivery. Hazardous-materials crews worked on the night of July 19 to clean up a nitric acid spill at a business. St. Cloud firefighters were called at 7:48 p.m. to Spee Dee Delivery, 4101 Clearwater Road. A package in one of the company's trailers was leaking. Workers tried to clean up the spill but were overcome by fumes, according to the fire department. Firefighters were called and cordoned off the area. They called the shipper and found out the substance was nitric acid. The company called in a clean-up crew and firefighters cordoned off the area. The container was about 22 pounds and most of the nitric acid leaked out, according to the fire department. The nitric acid was removed. No one was injured. Source: http://www.sctimes.com/article/20100720/NEWS01/107200031/1009

(Minnesota) Storm forced county fair evacuation and sent trees onto homes. Heavy rains and high winds whipped through Sherburne County, Minnesota July 17, downing numerous trees, including some that landed on homes. Trees that fell on power lines in Elk River took out power for homes and businesses to the east of Highway 169 between 193rd Avenue and County Road 33. Clean up efforts began that night and resumed early July 18. The Sherburne County fairgrounds had to be evacuated as the storm moved in. The evacuation began shortly before the tornado siren sounded after heavy rain and lightning hit the area. Many of the 2,000 people at the fair headed home. People on the east end of the fairgrounds were asked to take cover at the nearby fire station, and those on the west end headed tot the government center. Coborn's Superstore, a 24-hour grocery, and other businesses on Evan Street, closed due to the power outage. Employees and customers at the Elk River grocery store took cover in the rear of the building. The fair is up and running again on the west side of Elk River, and power is back on the east side. Source: http://erstarnews.com/content/view/13154/26/

(Montana) Anaconda foundry target of burglary. The Anaconda Foundry Fabrication Co. (AFFCO) in Anaconda, Montana is offering a \$3,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of a suspected burglar or burglars who stole \$600 and 200 pounds of copper products the night of July 16. An AFFCO vice president told The Montana Standard that the company is filing a police report and have also hired a private investigator to help track the responsible parties. Burglars also took a small, company-owned pickup, though it was recovered later July 17 in town with nothing from inside missing. AFFCO does not yet have an estimate of the damage done, which includes a broken back window, two doors kicked in and several smashed toolboxes. Source:

http://www.mtstandard.com/news/local/article 29845c94-93ce-11df-84b1-001cc4c03286.html

NATIONAL

Gulf tourism may lose \$22.7 billion to oil spill. The tourism industry in the Gulf of Mexico could suffer for up to three years with \$22.7 billion in lost revenue because of the largest oil spill in U.S. history, the U.S. Travel Association said July 22. The study projected the impact of the BP oil spill on travel to the five Gulf Coast states — Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. Oil fears have sparked a double-digit drop in plans for travel to the region, even in parts of Florida where oil has not yet washed ashore. The association proposed a 10-point "Roadmap to Recovery" plan for the government to help communities hit by the oil spill by informing the public, and adding incentives to travel to the affected areas. The plan includes the creation of a \$500-million marketing program, to be funded by BP, to share accurate information on the oil spill and attract visitors. It also calls for setting up an online system where travelers could get current information about which areas are open for travel and business. Source:

http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE66L5NC20100722?type=domesticNews

INTERNATIONAL

Mexico worried by rise in hemorrhagic dengue. Mexico is facing a sort of perfect storm of floods that breed mosquitoes, prompting a big increase in the number of hemorrhagic dengue cases, the country's top epidemiological official said July 21. The disease's Type 2 strain, which makes people who have already had the Type 1 variant more vulnerable to developing the hemorrhagic form, is now in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz and moving north toward the region on the U.S. border. Type 1 is already present in border states like Tamaulipas, which suffered extensive flooding in the weeks

after Hurricane Alex made landfall June 30. Cases of the milder, classic form of dengue fever in Mexico have declined slightly since 2009. But the more serious hemorrhagic form has spiked to about 1,900 cases this year, compared with about 1,430 in the same period of 2009. Only 16 people have died this year from the hemorrhagic form, but the seriousness of the disease makes it a concern. Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jCJkt8A u7NyFY4b-aW6Zvzk2s1gD9H3N0CO3

Nuevo Laredo (MX) grenade attack. According to reports, there was a grenade attack at a soccer complex in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico late July 20. The attack occurred after a soccer game while people were still in the stands, a newpaper in Nuevo Leon, Mexico said. The newspaper said a person threw a grenade towards the bleachers and at least five people were injured. The newspaper reported, although it's not being confirmed by officials, that a child died in a hospital from injuries received in the attack. One of the victims was transported to Laredo, Texas in serious condition. According to the Laredo Fire Department, they were dispatched to Bridge Two in the early morning hours. A Mexican ambulance was transporting a child between the ages of 10 and 12. First responders said the child received injuries to one arm. Source: http://www.pro8news.com/news/local/NL-Grenade-attack-98877659.html

China rushes to keep oil from international waters. China rushed to keep an oil spill from reaching international waters July 20, while an environmental group tried to assess if the country's largest reported spill was worse than has been disclosed. Crude oil started pouring into the Yellow Sea off a busy northeastern port after a pipeline exploded late last week, sparking a massive 15-hour fire. The government said the slick has spread across a 70-square-mile stretch of ocean. Images of 100-foothigh flames shooting up near part of China's strategic oil reserves drew the immediate attention of the Chinese president and other top leaders. Now the challenge is cleaning up the greasy, brown plume floating off the shores of Dalian. Activists said it was too early to tell what impact the pollution might have on marine life. Officials told Xinhua they did not yet know how much oil had leaked, but China Central Television reported that no more pollution, including oil and firefighting chemicals, had entered the sea July 20. Dalian's vice mayor told Xinhua that 40 specialized oil-control boats would be on the scene by late July 20, along with hundreds of fishing boats. Oil-eating bacteria were also being used in the cleanup. The cause of the blast was still not clear July 20. The pipeline is owned by China National Petroleum Corp., Asia's biggest oil and gas producer by volume. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100720/ap on bi ge/as china pipeline explosion

Militants attack power plant in North Caucasus. Militants attacked a hydroelectric power plant in Russia's restive North Caucasus region July 21, killing two guards before setting off several bombs that forced the facility to be shut down. Between three and five armed men raided the Baksanskaya station, a small plant in the Kabardino-Balkaria region, at around 5:30 a.m. local time, investigators said. They shot the two guards, then broke into the plant's engine room. "Unknown men in masks broke into the power plant, broke down a closed door, then tied up the employees," the plant's director told Russian television. Two of the employees sustained injuries and had to be hospitalized. The militants then set and detonated at least four bombs, which destroyed three generators, but failed to cause a breach in the dam, officials said. A fire caused by the explosions had been extinguished by midday, and no power failures were reported in the region. Investigators have yet to identify those responsible. An unidentified source in the Federal Security Service told the Ria Novosti

news agency that a local militant leader was suspected of masterminding the attack. Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/22/world/europe/22moscow.html? r=1

Reports: Turkish hackers have stolen personal data of more than 100,000 Israelis. Turkish hackers have posted two large files that could expose the personal data of more than 100,000 Israeli citizens, according to news reports. Israeli observers fear the data thefts may be a concerted effort by Turkish hackers to target Israeli nationals. The two countries have been in conflict since Israeli forces intercepted a Gaza-bound aid flotilla May 31. On July 18, an Israeli blogger said in his blog on We-CMS that he had found an Excel spreadsheet with more than 32,000 e-mail addresses and passwords published on a Turkish forum. The items were obtained through numerous hackings since the Gaza flotilla incident, he said, including Israeli accounts on Facebook, Gmail, and Messenger. Also July 18, TheMarker.com Web site reported that another file is circulating on the Internet that contains the email addresses of an additional 70,000 Israeli Web users. One of the sources of the data, Israel's Pizza Hut, confirmed it has been hacked. The company said July 17 that e-mail addresses and passwords of 26,476 customers who ordered pizza from the company's Web site in early June had been stolen. Pizza Hut officials said credit-card data is not stored on the Web site. The Israeli classified ad site called Homeless also conceded that its site has been hacked. No personal details were disclosed in the hack, according to the site, although "partial" user data may have been revealed. "I also mean PayPal," the blogger said. "From what I've been able to learn on the forum, the hackers penetrated PayPal accounts of Israelis, and their bank accounts, and also obtained credit card details." Source: http://www.darkreading.com/security/cybercrime/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=226000027

Man carrying gun caught at Amsterdam airport. Police at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport have arrested a man aged 35 who tried to get through customs carrying a loaded handgun. A police spokesman said the man was about to board a flight to Curaçao, but when he passed the security scanners he was found to have a pistol in his coat pocket. The man, who is of Dutch nationality, did not resist arrest. His motives are unclear. The gate from which the flight to the Dutch Caribbean island was about to depart was closed off and searched by police. Shortly afterwards, the plane was allowed to leave. Source: http://www.rnw.nl/english/bulletin/man-carrying-gun-caught-amsterdamairport

German nuclear plant to receive fog defenses. A system due for deployment at a German nuclear power station is designed to enclose the facility in a cloud of vapor as protection against a potential aircraft strike, Agence France-Presse reported July 20. A number of fog grenades could obscure the Philippsburg nuclear power plant from view within 40 seconds should a rogue aircraft enter the vicinity, according to regional officials. The Environment Ministry in the German state of Baden-Wuerttemberg indicated July 19 it had approved the plan. An experimental version of the system, already operating "decently" at another nuclear site, would launch the fog-dispersing devices through a number of firing units, a ministry spokeswoman said. Germany's highest court played a role in prompting development of the defense measure when it ruled out the use of force against aircraft that have been hijacked, the official said. Skeptics of the system have warned, though, that aircraft instruments could locate a nuclear facility inside a vapor cloud. Source:

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw 20100720 3430.php

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

(Illinois) Gunman makes terror threat, robs downtown office. According to police, a gunman threatened to detonate a car bomb and claimed links to al-Qaida while robbing an American Express office on the Magnificent Mile in Chicago July 21. A man approached an employee in the American Express travel service office at 605 N. Michigan Ave. at first trying to buy euros and then showing her a gun in his waistband as he demanded money, said the Near North District captain. The man told the woman he was a member of al-Qaida, pointed to a vehicle across the street, and claimed there was a bomb in the car and that he could detonate it with his cell phone. The man, described as 6-feet tall, 200 pounds and possibly of Middle Eastern descent, went on to instruct all the office employees they had three minutes to hand over all the money they had. Police believed the robber made off with 15,000 euros in addition to other currency. He fled the scene on foot, heading south on St. Clair Street, according to the police captain. No one was hurt. When police arrived, the vehicle carrying the alleged bomb was gone. The man had spent several hours in the office July 20, employees told police. He had tried to obtain euros but was unable to because the office did not have a sufficient amount, the spokesman said. The man told the employees that they had better have plenty of euros on hand when he returned. Source: http://www.tradingmarkets.com/news/stock-alert/axp_gunman-makesterror-threat-robs-downtown-office-1059266.html

Obama signs sweeping U.S. financial reform into law. The U.S. President signed into law July 21 the biggest overhaul of American financial regulation in decades. The President said the law will ensure "that everyone follows the same set of rules, so that firms compete on price and quality, not tricks and traps". The law is a major victory for the President and the Democrats, who passed it with little Republican support after months of political wrangling. The law tightens mortgage and consumerlending rules, improves disclosure for student borrowers and average investors, and establishes a new consumer protection agency, among other provisions. Almost every Congressional Republican opposed the bill, saying its new regulations would prove burdensome to businesses trying to create jobs. Several provisions are intended to eliminate government bailouts by dealing with an issue known as "too big to fail" where a financial firm cannot be allowed to collapse because of the wider damage it would do. There are provisions to enable regulators to shut down a failing large firm in an orderly manner, and others intended to curtail their size in the first place. Source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-10719263

(Ohio) More reports filed on fake bank security breaches. Police are still getting reports of residents being contacted about a fake security breach at Brookville National Bank in Brookville, Ohio. Police first started receiving reports about the fake security breach notices July 10. The latest reports occurred July 19. Residents told police they received automated messages to land-line phones and cell phones advising them of the breach and prompting them to enter their account information. The residents are told that they need to enter their account information to reactivate their accounts. Phone carriers Verizon, Frontier and Time Warner, as well as the local branch of the FBI, have all been notified about the messages. Authorities believe the calls are being made out of the United States and that the suspects are "spoofing" phone numbers, a process that allows different phone numbers to show up on the victim's caller ID's. Source: http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/crime/more-reports-filed-on-fake-bank-security-breaches-820875.html

(Utah) Utah electric utility warning of credit card fraud. Rocky Mountain Power in Salt Lake City, Utah, said scam artists are tricking its customers to reveal their credit card accounts using fraudulent telephone calls claiming the customers are in default and at risk of losing power. Sometimes the perpetrators tell victims they forgot to sign a check. The callers are asking for credit card numbers to satisfy bills. Rocky Mountain Power said it does not operate that way and warns people not to give out any personal information. The utility said it is working with police to stop the fraud. Source: http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9H26KOO4.htm

Skimmers siphoning card data at the pump. Thieves recently attached bank card skimmers to gas pumps at more than 30 service stations along several major highways in and around Denver, Colorado, the latest area to be hit by a scam that allows crooks to siphon credit and debit card account information from motorists filling up their tanks. Forced to re-issue an unusually high number of bank cards due to fraudulent charges on the accounts, a regional bank serving Colorado and surrounding states recently began searching for commonalities among the victimized accounts. The financial institution, which shared information with KrebsOnSecurity.com on the condition that it not be named, found that virtually all of the compromised cardholders had purchased gas from one of a string of filling stations along or not far from Interstate 25, a major North-South highway that runs through the heart of Denver. Several Valero stations along the I-25 corridor reached by phone acknowledged being visited over the past week by local police and U.S. Secret Service agents searching for skimmer devices. The stations declined to comment on the record, but said investigators left them with a bulletin stating that stations in the area had been targeted, and urging them to be on the lookout for suspicious activity around the pumps. Similar attacks on gas station pumps recently have hit other parts of the country. Police in Arizona also are dealing with a spike in reports about skimmers showing up at gas pumps, prompting the governor to urge the Arizona Department of Weights and Measures to increase its inspection efforts. Source: http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/07/skimmers-siphoning-card-data-at-the-pump/

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

(Illinois) Radioactive material missing from area hospital. Officials are investigating how a lead-lined safe containing radioactive material went missing from a storage area at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, Illinois. An official with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), which oversees the handling of hazardous materials, said the safe could not be found after construction crews completed a demolition project at the facility on July 13. Officials suspect the construction crews may have inadvertently thrown out the safe with debris headed for an area landfill. The official said the safe is not believed to have been stolen, although the state is still investigating. A spokesman for the medical center declined to comment July 21. In a report filed to the NRC, IEMA said the safe contained several small radioactive "seeds" used in the treatment of cancer. The official said the radioactive material does not pose a public health threat if it remains in the locked safe. However, if someone were to remove and handle the seeds, the health risks would be significant. "As long as they remain in the safe, it's a relatively safe situation," the official said. Investigators have alerted landfill operators in the area to look for the safe and to use radiation-monitoring devices to search for it amid debris. Source: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2010-07-21/health/ct-met-0722-hospital-radioactive-material-safe-handling-of-hazardous-materials

(Texas) Fed updates farmers on hazardous chemical rules. Texas farmers learned more about the rules and regulations over the maintenance, transportation and use of anhydrous ammonia, a popular fertilizer and a chemical sometimes used to make drugs. The Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) plans to step up compliance inspections in 2011. The agency plans to spend the rest of 2010 informing farmers and dealers of the new compliance effort. According to a letter addressed to anhydrous ammonia nurse tank owners and users from the U.S. Department of Transportation back in 2008, the PHMSA alerted those in the industry of "serious safety problems and noncompliance issues regarding the maintenance, filling, transport and use of nurse tanks in anhydrous ammonia service." In order to educate farmers and dealers in Bell County and surrounding counties, a workshop was held July 20 at the Bell County Expo Center. These rules regulate everything from signage and proper labels on tanks, to required testing and training. Source: http://www.news8austin.com/content/headlines/272742/fed-updates-farmers-on-hazardous-chemical-rules

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(California) Man arrested after police find materials to make explosives in a San Leandro storage shed. Police arrested a man in Stockton, Calfornia after finding materials to make explosives, as well as bomb-making books, at a storage facility, they said. Employees at StorQuest Self Storage on Davis Street at Preda Street in San Leandro, were cleaning out an abandoned storage locker July 14 when they found the materials and called authorities. Police investigated that day and called in the Alameda County Sheriff's bomb squad, which removed about 100 pounds of material, including aluminum powder, red phosphorous, potassium chlorate, potassium nitrate, detonation cords, tubes, and caps from the locker. A police lieutenant described the books as instructional for making "improvised explosives." "The material that he had was of very significant concern," a sheriff's sergeant said. "These things are highly volatile and should not be stored in any public storage area." Sheriff's department investigators and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are analyzing the materials. "It looks like it could have been more than a clandestine fireworks operation," the sergeant said. Source:

http://www.insidebayarea.com/dailyreview/localnews/ci 15580528

(Illinois) Bomb scare evacuates NBC Tower. NBC Tower in Chicago was evacuated early July 22 after police received a call reporting a suspicious cardboard canister inside the bus shelter at the corner of North Water and Columbus Drive. The shelter is located at the front of the tower's Columbus entrance. The Chicago Police Bomb and Arson Squad ordered guests of the Sheraton Hotel to stay put and evacuated NBC. The squad then used two robots to determine whether the package was a bomb. "A short time later, a loud explosion sound alerted onlookers. The box was detonated and the scene was rendered safe," said a police news affairs officer. The suspicious package was one of two reported in the last 24 hours. Another call came in at 8:50 p.m. reporting a package in the Old Town neighborhood. Police found a package in a building in the 1500 block of North Wells Street. Bomb and arson investigators determined the package contained a radio speaker. Source: http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local-beat/Bomb-Scares-In-The-City-Lead-to-Evacuations-99012209.html

(Mississippi) Package had cell phone attached. A suspicious package with a cell phone attached to the top of it was found July 22 at the Southern Bone & Joint medical facility in Hattiesburg,

Mississippi. There was a substance inside the 6-inch by 6-inch package, but no bomb components other than the phone. The package was found in the rear stall of a bathroom. Bomb squad members used a water cannon in its efforts to disrupt the mechanism. The package was then brought to the facility's parking lot and blown up. Employees of Southern Bone & Joint and Nicholson and Company were being allowed back in their buildings around 5 p.m. The contents of the package are unknown. Source:

http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20100722/NEWS01/100722023/Package+had+cell+phone+attached

(Illinois) Authorities investigate string of bomb scares. A suspicious package was left at the front door of the Planned Parenthood Center on North La Salle Drive in Chicago July 22. "This is for all the doctors and what you do for women," a note said. Inside the box was a newspaper and a dead possum. On July 3, a package with the same message was left in a planter outside Family Planning Associates Medical Group on North Elston. That box had a dead skunk in it. What happened at Planned Parenthood was just one of four similar incidents that took place in less than 24 hours in Chicago. The fire department was called to the Dirksen Federal Building, where suspicious material was found in an envelope inside a clerk's office on the 20th floor. It was determined not to be a threat. Also, overnight, officers found a suspicious cylinder at a bus shelter at Columbus and North Water. A bomb and arson robot was used to check it out, and the cylinder was blown up. A suspicious package was also discovered on North Wells in Old Town July 21. That package turned out to be a radio speaker in a box. Planned Parenthood has several surveillance cameras outside their building. The organization has given the tape to law enforcement. Source:

http://cbs2chicago.com/topstories/bomb.scares.Dirksen.2.1820040.html

(Michigan) FBI warning local churches. Most churches in Oakland County, Michigan have recently received a letter from the FBI warning of suspicious activity, including people asking questions about church buildings. A FBI special agent said the letter was sent out after several churches reported suspicious people asking odd questions. The letter warns of several instances of people showing up at places of worship and asking detailed questions about building layout and where people usually congregate. Suspicious people have also asked when worship centers would be populated and where Christians could be found in the building. The suspicious activity has been reported during the past several months, and the letter has been sent to churches of all denominations. "It wasn't meant to be anything to raise alarm or anything like that," the Special Agent said. "There's no indication at all of criminal activity or a terrorist act. No indication of any threat. We're simply passing along information we received to area churches indicating that suspicious activity is going on, in an abundance of caution." Source:

http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2010/07/21/news/doc4c47b400af280549105484.txt

(Washington) LCC student arrested for allegedly threatening to 'shoot up' mall. Kelso, Washington police July 19 arrested a 25-year-old Longview man suspected of threatening, in an anonymous message posted on a Web site, to "shoot up" the Three Rivers Mall. He was arrested on suspicion of felony harassment at Lower Columbia College shortly before 12:15 p.m. Police said he admitted to posting the message, but said it was a prank. The message, posted on an undisclosed Web site the evening of July 18, said the shooting would take place at 2 p.m. July 19, Kelso police said in a statement. Several people who saw the message called the FBI and Kelso police, saying they feared the poster was serious and hoped authorities could prevent "a possible mall shooting." Authorities

contacted the suspect's Internet service provider, which led police to his home. An FBI spokesman in Seattle said the bureau's Vancouver office "offered assistance" but was not closely involved with the investigation. The suspect was released after police "verified that (he) did not have the means or intent to follow through with the threat." The case will be forwarded to the prosecutor's office. Source: http://tdn.com/news/local/article 8531a7f6-93a4-11df-a4e2-001cc4c002e0.html

(Michigan) 50+ more ill after Millennium Park swim. The number of people who got sick after spending time at Millenium Park in Grand Rapids, Michigan July 16 is growing. In addition to the 30 cases of people who originally fell ill, another 50 called the Kent County Health Department the morning of July 21 to report their family also got sick, a department spokesperson told 24 Hour News 8. Those affected report symptoms of diarrhea and vomiting. Stool samples taken from some affected park-goers were expected to be tested by the end of the day July 21. A health department official said the samples were being tested for Norovirus. There were 1,900 admissions to Millennium Park July 16, and the official believes the number of affected people could be more than 100. He also believes kids may be more affected because they were fully submerged. In the meantime, the health department is taking a cautionary measure by cleaning surfaces at Millenium Park with a hyperchlorinated water solution. The health department hopes to release the results of stool sample testing the evening of July 21 or morning of July 22. Source:

http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/kent_county/50-more-ill-after-Millennium-Park-swim

(Massachusetts) Central Massachusetts copes with flooding, fires caused by storm. A major storm carrying severe winds, heavy rains, and lightning tore through central Massachusetts July 20, causing fires and flooding. A tornado warning was issued, and although there were no reports of one touching down, some areas experienced serious damage from high winds. The Leominster Fire Department responded to two fires sparked by lightning strikes. In the northern part of the city, flooding forced the closure of Route 12, a weather service report said. The fire department answered numerous calls of fire alarms sounding because of lightning as well as flooding. And the heavy rains caused basement flooding in the central fire station. The area was also hit by hail the size of golf balls. There was at least one fire caused by lightning when Eustis Enterprise Inc., a furniture store in Ashburnham, was struck by lightning. The winds caused trees to fall on power lines and onto roads, closing Central Street between Pleasant and School streets. The heavy flooding caused a number of problems in Fitchburg. Stranded cars sat in the middle of several roads. A family of three was forced to swim from their car between Rollstone and Franklin streets. In Westminster, power outages were reported throughout the town, said a fire department dispatcher. Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/07/20/central massachusetts cop

es with flooding fires caused by storm/

(Nevada) Reno police arrest man on suspicion of making casino bomb threats. A 45-year-old Reno, Nevada man who speaks with a stutter was calling 911 to allegedly report phony bomb threats to two casino hotel and spas. In the first call to 911 July 15, the man said a large group of men had placed a bomb in the Peppermill Hotel Spa and Casino because they were angry they lost thousands of dollars gambling. A half hour later, the same man called again, reporting the men had headed to the Atlantis Hotel Spa and Casino and intended on blowing it up. After officers concluded the threats were hoaxes, they traced the calls to to the suspect, who was booked into the Washoe County Jail on two counts of felony bomb threat. He remained in custody July 19 in lieu of \$30,000 bail. During his arrest, the suspect told officers he was angry with the businesses. His specific complaints were unknown.

Source: http://www.rgj.com/article/20100719/NEWS01/100719020/-1/CARSON/Reno-police-arrest-man-on-suspicion-of-making-casino-bomb-threats

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

FCC: Broadband deployment isn't happening fast enough. Between 14 million and 24 million U.S. residents do not have access to broadband service, and deployment is not happening fast enough, a report from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) concluded. Broadband is not being rolled out to unserved areas in a timely manner, and immediate prospects for deployment to U.S. residents without service are "bleak," the FCC said in the broadband deployment report, released July 20. This is the first time, since the FCC began issuing the reports in 1999, that the agency has concluded that broadband isn't being deployed fast enough. "The report points out the great broadband successes in the United States, including as many as 290 million Americans who have gained access to broadband over the past decade," the FCC chairman said. "But the statute requires more. It requires the agency to reach a conclusion about whether all — not some, not most — Americans are being served in a reasonable and timely fashion." The report focuses on ways to speed broadband deployment, including revamping the FCC's Universal Service Fund to support broadband, increasing the amount of wireless spectrum available for commercial and unlicensed uses, and collecting better broadband data to assist policymakers and consumers. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9179443/FCC Broadband deployment isn t happening fast enough

(Iowa) Flash flooding knocks out 911 service. The Wayne County Sheriff's office in Iowa said early July 20 that 911 service has been knocked out to some cities due to flash flooding. Hummeston and a few other cities are without 911 service and long distance phone service. Some phone lines were washed out. It is not known yet how long the outage is expected to last. Residents affected can use their cell phones to call 911. Source: http://www.kcci.com/news/24322443/detail.html

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

(Michigan) Couple charged over hybrid car industrial espionage plot. A Troy, Michigan couple faces charges of stealing industrial secrets on hybrid cars from GM before attempting to sell the data to a Chinese auto manufacturer. A former GM worker and her husband have been charged with four offenses, including unauthorized possession of trade secrets and wire fraud under an indictment unsealed July 22. GM reportedly places a value of \$40 million on the stolen documents. The former GM worker allegedly copied thousands of sensitive documents onto a hard disk after she was offered a severance agreement in January 2005. This hard drive was used by Millennium Technology International, a firm run by the two defendants, which months later allegedly offered hybrid-vehicle technology to Chery Automobile in China. The circumstances of the case raise serious questions about the security controls applied by GM to safeguard its research around the time of the alleged data theft. In May 2006, the couple's home was raided, leading to the recovery of computers containing industrial secrets, according to prosecutors. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/07/23/hybrid car espionage scam/

767 similarities allow Boeing to duck Dreamliner evacuation trial. Boeing is finalizing the last elements of the 787's certification program as it targets a year-end first delivery, but will not be

required to run a cabin evacuation trial demonstration. Because of the cabin's similarity in configuration and size to its predecessor, the 767, Boeing is able to qualify 787-8's exit limit maximum of 250 passengers through analysis, said the twinjet programme's vice-president and general manger. Some elements of the evacuation system will need to be demonstrated for certification, such as slide deployment, and proper door, lighting and annunciation operation. Another element of the certification effort that is fast approaching is the service-ready operation validation tests, or route-proving. Source: http://www.flightglobal.com/articles/2010/07/22/345176/farnborough-767-similarities-allow-boeing-to-duck-dreamliner-evacuation.html

DEFENSE / INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

(Iowa) Workers find possible bomb at former Waterloo munitions plant. Waterloo, Iowa police have asked the military for advice in disposing of a suspected bomb found in a former munitions plant. Workers with Active Thermal Concepts, which is involved in the demolition of the former Chamberlain Manufacturing compound, found the suspected bomb July 21. The device was found out in the open on what appeared to be a water heater in the northern section of the plant. Authorities said the workers moved it to an area by a door so they could see it better. Source: http://www.wqad.com/news/sns-ap-ia--suspectedbomb,0,3827604.story

STSS demonstration satellites detect and track test launch of ICBM. The Space Tracking and Surveillance System (STSS) demonstration program showed that some satellites detected and tracked an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) launched June 16 by the U.S. Air Force. The three-stage, ICBM Minuteman III missile carried a single, inert reentry vehicle atop a fully modernized booster, guidance set and post-boost vehicle. The missile traveled about 4,800 miles in approximately 30 minutes, hitting a target in the Ronald Reagan Test Site near Kwajalein Atoll in the western chain of the Marshall Islands. The STSS missile defense satellites transmitted tracking data from the launch to the Missile Defense Integration and Operations Center at Schreiver Air Force Base, Colorado, where the information is being analyzed. Earlier in June, STSS successfully detected and tracked a two-stage, Ground-Based Interceptor during a U.S. Missile Defense Agency test. The Missile Defense Agency is pursuing the STSS demonstration program as a space-based sensor component of the Ballistic Missile Defense System. The STSS satellites will provide missile-defense, sensor-risk reduction concepts to support development and fielding of future operational missile defense satellite constellation. Source:

http://www.spacewar.com/reports/STSS Demonstration Satellites Detect And Track Test Launch
Of ICBM 999.html

Extending the life of B-61 nuclear weapons could cost \$4 billion. The B61-11, a tactical nuclear bomb, ceased production in 2008. The B-61 series weapons won't remain vital if they don't undergo a life-extension program. The original B-61 entered the stockpile in 1968 as a tactical nuclear bomb. An even more modern version, B-61-11, ended production in 2008, with a raised yield and a hardened nose cone to make it more effective against deeply buried targets. More than 150 of the B-61s — the 7s and 11s — are now stored in Western European countries. Sandia national laboratory has the lead in the life-extension program of the older versions of the B-61-7s, which has been underway since 2009. Sandia's director told senators at a recent hearing that critical non-nuclear components "are exhibiting age-related performance degradation." He cited specifically that the earlier B-61 radar, which begins the fusing process of the weapon as it descends toward the target, includes vacuum

tubes that now will be replaced by computer chips. Plans also call for replacing the battery component and the neutron generator in each bomb. According to the National Nuclear Security Administration's recently publicized Fiscal Year 2011 Stockpile Stewardship and Management Summary, the costs for the total B-61-7 life-extension program — which began in 2003 and are expected to run through 2023 — could total \$4 billion. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/19/AR2010071905187.html

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Study: U.S. police fatalities increase 43 percent. A nonprofit group in Washington D.C. said the number of police officers who have died in the line of duty is up 43 percent so far this year. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund released preliminary data July 21. It shows that 87 officers died in the line of duty between January 1 and June 30. That is compared with 61 officers during the first six months of last year. The deaths were spread across 36 states and Puerto Rico — with California, Texas, and Florida showing the most fatalities. Other states included Virginia and Maryland, where a state trooper was fatally shot June 11. Among the causes of death were traffic accidents and shootings. If the trend continues, 2010 could become one of the deadliest years for U.S. police agencies in two decades. Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gbXHLr_eHhpRk9WqYP4nXMEdwjjQD9H377 F00

U.S. official: Mexican car bomb likely used Tovex. A drug gang that carried out the first successful car bombing against Mexican security forces likely used an industrial explosive that organized crime gangs in the past have stolen from private companies, a U.S. official said July 19. The assailants apparently used Tovex, a water gel explosive commonly used as a replacement for dynamite in mining and other industrial activities, said a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity. The car bomb killed three people — including a federal police officer — July 15 in Ciudad Juarez and introduced a new threat in Mexico's drug war. Mexican authorities said the assailants lured police and paramedics to the scene through an elaborate ruse seemingly taken out of an Al-Qaida playbook. A street gang tied to the Juarez cartel dressed a bound, wounded man in a police uniform, then called in a false report of an officer shot at an intersection. They waited until the authorities were in place to detonate the bomb. A graffiti message scrawled on a wall July 19 threatened more attacks in Juarez. The message directed its threat at the FBI and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, demanding an investigation of Mexican law enforcement officials who "support the Sinaloa cartel." The graffiti message said there would be another car bomb unless "corrupt federal" officials are arrested within 15 days. There was no way to verify the authenticity of the message. The FBI and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives are aiding the Mexicans in the car bomb investigation, officials from those agencies have said. Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gMi5B2USfJStXxfqgWWr2xjRYpOgD9H2HK0G2

(California) FBI joins probe into suspected CA freeway shooter. The FBI has joined an investigation into the case of a convicted felon who opened fire on California Highway Patrol officers after a traffic stop. Authorities said the 45-year-old suspect was heavily armed and wearing a bulletproof vest when he shot at police July 18 on an Oakland freeway. He also was wounded in the shootout, but expected

to survive. Authorities said the FBI joined the investigation to probe his background and behavior, as well as the contents of a diary authorities found in his car. The notebook was titled "California" and removed by a bomb squad robot. His mother told local media that her son was angry he could not find a job as a parolee and upset about Congress' "left-wing agenda." Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_15553687

ENERGY

Removing SCADA worm could disrupt power plants. Siemens has made a program available for detecting and disinfecting malware attacking its software used to control power grids, gas refineries, and factories but warned customers who use it could disrupt sensitive plant operations. The Munich-based engineering company July 22 began distributing Sysclean, a malware scanner made by Trend Micro. It has been updated to remove Stuxnet, a worm that spreads by exploiting two separate vulnerabilities in Siemens's SCADA, or supervisory control and data acquisition, software and every supported version of Microsoft Windows. Stuxnet has infected the engineering environment of at least one unidentified Siemens customer, and has since been eliminated, Siemens said. So far, the company said, there are no known infections of production plants. The worm spreads whenever a system running Siemens's SCADA software is attached to an infected USB stick. The attacks use a recently documented vulnerability in the Windows shortcut feature to take control of customer PCs. Once there, the worm takes advantage of default passwords in WinCC, the SCADA software provided by Siemens. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/07/22/siemens.scada_worm/

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(California) Vandal uses pesticide to kill 200,000 honeybees. A beekeeper says someone deliberately wiped out two hives in San Francisco, using a household pesticide to kill 200,000 honeybees. The owner said the two mature bee colonies kept at Hayes Valley Farm were destroyed the week of July 19. Her nonprofit San Francisco Bee-Cause placed the hives on the farm as part of an urban pollination project. She said household pesticide was sprayed into vents on the sides of the hives. The dead bees were discovered July 20 and a police report was filed. Organizers of the farm believe the attack was not the result of teenagers but instead an adult who lives nearby. Source: http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=visaliatimesdelta&sParam=341179 35.story

Bug-eating bats bite the dust, endangering U.S. soy, corn crops. The loss of swaths of the U.S. bat population may threaten corn and soybean crops and other parts of the U.S. agriculture and timber industries, said a conservation advocate at the Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson, Arizona. Bats help control insect pests, eating as much as two-thirds of their body weight per night. Hundreds of caves and 30,000 abandoned mines in the West and Midwest may be closed as part of a government plan to protect bat from man. The cave closings may come "as early as this week," according to a U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman, and are the latest efforts to combat a disease called White Nose Syndrome that decimated bat communities in 13 states and two Canadian provinces. The disease, perhaps caused by a fungus, may spread to more states as hikers and tourists inadvertently carry spores on their clothing. Source: http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-07-23/bug-eating-bats-bite-the-dust-endangering-u-s-soy-corn-crops.html

Headcheese salmonella outbreak sickens 18 in Ontario and B.C. Canadian federal health officials are issuing a warning about a salmonella outbreak involving headcheese that has sickened 18 people in British Columbia (B.C.) and Ontario, Canada. The Public Health Agency of Canada said people should not eat Freybe brand headcheese produced by G. Brandt Meat Packers in Mississauga, Ontario. Headcheese is made from meat from the head of a pig and is combined with gelatin and spices. It was distributed nationally by Freybe Gourmet Foods Ltd., but it is sliced and packaged at deli counters in various stores so consumers may not be aware of the brand they bought. Health officials said there are 17 confirmed cases of illness in B.C. and one confirmed case in Ontario, mostly involving the elderly. Last week, the B.C. Centre for Disease Control issued a warning about salmonella involving the Freybe brand of headcheese as illnesses started appearing in the province. Source: http://www.thestar.com/article/839279--headcheese-salmonella-outbreak-sickens-18-in-ontario-and-b-c

(Illinois) Homemade bomb goes off inside Woodman's. A homemade bomb was set off by someone inside the Woodman's grocery store in Rockford, Illinois. The small explosion was set off in Aisle 10 of the store July 19 around midnight. Rockford police said the device is known as a "MacGyver Bomb," a homemade explosive device made with liquid materials and metal. No one was hurt and no arrests have been made. A suspect was captured on a store surveillance camera walking into the store with a bottle in his hand and then leaving the store without a bottle. The camera in Aisle 10 was facing the other direction and did not capture the actual explosion. Source: http://www.wrex.com/Global/story.asp?S=12838536

(Texas) Exclusive: Hundreds of Texas food makers were unlicensed. Hundreds of businesses across Texas have been manufacturing and selling food without a state license and, in some cases, have escaped health inspections intended to ensure the safety of those products. The businesses were flushed out in a statewide crackdown on unlicensed food manufacturers, begun last year by the Texas Department of State Health Services. "Many of the companies we have discovered are small operations that were simply unaware they needed a state license," a spokeswoman for the health department said. The state has identified 355 companies that appear to be producing and selling a wide variety of eatable products — from barbecue sauce in Fort Worth to pepper jelly in Dallas to ice cream in Houston — all without obtaining a manufacturing license from the state. The majority of these new-found food manufacturers have passed their state inspections without serious problems, and the state so far has levied no fines for unsanitary conditions, the spokeswoman said. The state went searching for unlicensed food manufacturers in the embarrassing aftermath of last year's discovery of an unlicensed peanut-processing plant in West Texas. Source: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/texassouthwest/stories/071810dntexfoodins-pect.1edb82a.html

Antibiotics in livestock affect humans, USDA testifies. There is a clear link between the use of antibiotics in livestock and drug resistance in humans, the U.S. President's administration said, a position sharply at odds with agribusiness interests. In testimony to a House committee July 14, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which livestock producers have traditionally relied on to advocate for their interests, backed the idea of a link between animal use of antibiotics and human health. The USDA "believes that it is likely that the use of antimicrobials in animal agriculture does lead to some cases of antimicrobial resistance among humans and in animals themselves," said the USDA chief veterinarian. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which regulates antibiotics in

animals and humans, has recently proposed to end the use of many drugs as growth promoters in hogs and other livestock. Only antibiotics such as ionophores that have no human use would be permitted to speed animals' growth. The FDA has set a schedule for phasing out the drugs' use or proposed specific restrictions. Officials said the ban is needed to ensure that the drugs remain useful in human medicine. At an earlier hearing, government health experts said U.S. data on the linkage was lacking. But July 14, administration officials tried to make a closer connection. Source: http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20100715/BUSINESS01/7150344/1030/Antibiotics-in-livestock-affect-humans-USDA-testifies

(New Mexico) Armed escorts to accompany New Mexico livestock inspectors. Beginning July 26, armed deputies will accompany inspectors to the scales in a corridor that stretches southwest from Interstate 10 at Las Cruces, New Mexico to the New Mexico-Arizona border, along Luna, Hidalgo, and Grant counties. The new protocol was put in place because of the growing insecurity among border ranchers after the highly-publicized March 27 murder of an Arizona rancher. When inspectors in New Mexico begin surveying 32 livestock scales along the increasingly dangerous Mexican border later this month, they will have armed escorts at their sides. It will mark the first time armed deputies will travel with New Mexico Department of Agriculture inspectors, who certify the scales used to weigh livestock, the Luna County sheriff said. The sheriff said the deputies will work overtime to accompany the inspectors, and will be paid via federal assistance from Operation Stonegarden, a Department of Homeland Security program that gives 14 states along the border flexibility to use grant funding to enhance coordination among state and federal law enforcement agencies. Source: http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/armed-escorts-accompany-new-mexico-livestock-inspectors

Frozen chicken nuggets recalled. U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced that Perdue Farms, Inc. is recalling approximately 91,872 pounds of frozen chicken nugget products that may contain foreign materials. The products subject to recall include 1-pound, 13-ounce bags of "Great Value Fully Cooked Chicken Nuggets." Each bag bears the establishment number "P-33944" as well as a case code of "89008 A0160" on the backside of the packaging. There is also a "Best if used by" date of June 9, 2011. Each case contains 8 bags and the frozen chicken nugget products were produced on June 9, 2010. The company, which is based in Georgia, discovered small pieces of blue plastic after receiving consumer complaints. FSIS has not received any reports of injury at this time. Anyone concerned about an injury from consumption of this product should contact a physician. Source:

http://www.coloradoconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=484845

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(Illinois) Suspicious items found at Dirksen federal building. Unidentified suspicious material was discovered in an envelope at the Dirksen Federal Building in Chicago July 22. The material has since been deemed safe. The fire department called a level 1 hazardous materials response for the items, which were found on the 20th floor of the federal courthouse at 219 S. Dearborn St. sometime shortly after 10 a.m. The 20th floor houses courtrooms, as well as judges' and clerks' offices. Sources tell CBS 2 an envelope with a suspicious substance was found in a clerk's office. The situation was secured at 10:55 a.m. and the envelope was deemed safe. It has not yet been learned exactly what the substance was. Fire trucks were seen pulling up outside the courthouse. Many high-profile court

cases and trials are underway in the building, including that of the deposed former Illinois governor. The building was not evacuated. Source:

http://cbs2chicago.com/local/dirksen.suspicious.package.2.1819025.html

(Alaska) Alaska couple pleads guilty to terrorism charges. A couple pleaded guilty July 22 in federal court to charges of making false statements to the FBI. U.S. attorneys are touting it as Alaska's first conviction related to domestic terrorism. At a press conference July 22, the U.S. Attorney said the husband converted to Islam years ago and began studying the teachings of a man who condoned violent "jihad-promoting ideology." In court July 22, the husband admitted to creating a hit list. An investigation showed he had an idea of how to use mail bombs or execute his target with a gunshot to the head. He vowed to exact revenge on anyone who desecrated Islam. The husband delivered the list, targeting 15 people, including some U.S. service members to Anchorage where FBI agents intercepted it. "By early this year, he had formalized a list of all those individuals. All of them reside outside of Alaska and began discussion of the construction of explosive devices and other means of killing the targeted individuals," said the U.S. attorney. The husband is expected to be sentenced to eight years in prison and his wife is expected to get five years of probation. Source: http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=12848129

(California) Propane tanks, knife found at college. A parking lot was roped off at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento, California July 21, after suspicious items were found in a van. A hazardous-materials crew was called after officers said they found a suspicious-looking vehicle in a campus parking lot, a campus spokesperson said. Someone who was not a Cosumnes student had propane tanks and a knife in his vehicle, the spokesman said. The driver was arrested on suspicion of having a knife on a school campus. Officials found a plastic-lined box with air vents through the roof of the van. The suspect told officers it was a special sleeping chamber. Police also found power tools, a laptop and a football helmet. On a window of the van were copies of associate art degrees, two from Cosumnes College in 2005. "Even though what he had in the van was not an explosive device, the behavior exhibited is somewhat suspicious. Public safety is our No. 1 concern so we want to explore this some more," a police spokesman said. Source: http://www.kcra.com/r/24327055/detail.html

Report: U.S. intelligence community inefficient, unmanageable. The September 11th attacks have led to an intelligence community so large and unwieldy that it is unmanageable and inefficient — and no one knows how much it costs, according to a two-year investigation by the Washington Post. The article appeared in the July 19 edition. Although officials in the intelligence community were concerned about the content of the newspaper articles ahead of publication, what troubled them the most was "interactive" component of the series, which they said lists the locations where the CIA, the National Security Agency, and the other agencies that make up the intelligence community have facilities. Many of those sites are not publicly known, some officials said. Officials worried about the security implications of such disclosures. As one person put it, "these are targeted places to begin with ... Mapping it out presents counterterrorism and counterintelligence concerns." The officials said there have been discussions with the Washington Post to make changes in the Web site. It was not immediately known what, if any, changes were made, but an interactive map available the morning of July 19 showed more than 2,000 government work locations and nearly 7,000 for private contractors. The newspaper said it took steps to allay public-safety concerns. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2010/POLITICS/07/19/intelligence.report/

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Virus writers are picking up new Microsoft attack. The Windows attack used by a recently discovered worm is being picked up by other virus writers and will soon become much more widespread, according to security vendor Eset. Eset reported July 22 that two new families of malicious software have popped up, both of which exploit a vulnerability in the way Windows processes .link files, used to provide shortcuts to other files on the system. The vulnerability was first exploited by the Stuxnet worm, discovered on computer systems in Iran last month. The highly sophisticated, Stuxnet, targets systems running Siemens industrial-control, system-management software. The worm steals SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) project files from Siemens' computer systems. The newly discovered malware is "far less sophisticated" than Stuxnet and "suggests bottom feeders seizing on techniques developed by others," said a Eset researcher writing in a blog post. One of the new samples installs a keystroke logger, a tool hackers use to steal passwords and other data, on the victim's computer. "The server used to deliver the components used in this attack is presently located in the U.S., but the IP is assigned to a customer in China," he said. The other variant could be used to install one of several different pieces of malicious software. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9179564/Virus writers are picking up new Microsoft a ttack

Microsoft warns of Windows shortcut drive-by attacks. Microsoft July 21 said that hackers could exploit the unpatched Windows shortcut vulnerability using drive-by download attacks that would trigger an infection when people simply surf to a malicious Web site. A noted vulnerability researcher July 21 confirmed such attacks are possible. In the revised security advisory published July 20, Microsoft acknowledged the new attack vector. "An attacker could also set up a malicious Web site or a remote network share and place the malicious components on this remote location," the company said. "When the user browses the Web site using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer or a file manager such as Windows Explorer, Windows will attempt to load the icon of the shortcut file, and the malicious binary will be invoked." That language was a change from earlier statements by Microsoft, which had said that attackers could hijack Windows PC by setting up a remote network share, a much more complicated task than building a malware-spreading Web site. In the earlier advisory, Microsoft also said that "the malicious binary may be invoked; the most recent warning instead said "the malicious binary will be invoked [emphasis added in both cases. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9179512/Microsoft warns of Windows shortcut drive-by-attacks

Dell warns of malware on motherboards. Dell has published a warning on its support forum that some of its server motherboards are infected with Windows malware. The admission, posted in response to a customer who wished to confirm that a telephone call he had received from a Dell representative was genuine, confirmed that "a small number of PowerEdge server motherboards" may contain spyware in its embedded server management firmware. Dell said it has created a list of affected customers, and that they are formally notifying them of the security problem via letter. No specifics have been offered as to which malware has infected the motherboards, or what it does. Source: http://www.sophos.com/blogs/gc/g/2010/07/21/dell-warns-malware-motherboards/

DHS, vendors unveil open source intrusion detection engine. The Open Information Security Foundation (OISF), a group funded by the U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and several security vendors, this week released an open-source engine built to detect and prevent network intrusions. The Suricata 1.0 engine is touted as a replacement for the 12-year-old Snort open source technology that over the years has emerged as a sort of de facto standard for detecting and preventing intrusions. Snort currently claims close to 300,000 registered users and over 4 million downloads. Nearly 100 vendors currently have added Snort to network security devices. Earlier this month, Amazon announced it selected Snort to deliver IPS protection for its Web services customers. The OISF president said Suricata is designed to address limitations in the older Snort tool. For example, Suricata's multi-threaded architecture can support high performance multi-core and multiprocesser systems. Snort is designed for the single-processor systems that dominated the tech world when it was created. The new engine also offers native IP reputation-filtering capabilities that allow Suricata-based intrusion-detection and intrusion-prevention devices to flag traffic from known bad sources. In addition, Suricata supports an automated protocol detection capability that enables protocol-specific security rules to be applied to a network stream, regardless of the port from which the traffic originated from. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9179436/DHS vendors unveil open source intrusion de tection engine

Attackers moving to social networks for command and control. Bot herders and the crimeware gangs behind banker Trojans have had much success the last few years using bullet-proof hosting providers as their main base of operations. New research from RSA shows that the gangs behind some Trojans that are such a huge problem in some countries, especially Brazil and other South American nations, are moving quietly and quickly to using social networks as the command-andcontrol mechanisms for their malware. The company's anti-fraud researchers recently stumbled upon one such attack in progress and watched as it unfolded. The attack is as simple as it is effective. It begins with the crimeware gang setting up one or more fake profiles on a given social network (RSA is not naming the network). The attacker then posts a specific set of encrypted commands. When a new machine is infected with the banker Trojan, the malware checks the profile for new commands. The specific command begins with a string of random characters that serves as an authentication mechanism, letting the Trojan know it's found the right commands. The rest of the encrypted string is hard-coded instructions telling the Trojan what to do next, whether to look for other machines on the network, search for saved data or log keystrokes when the user visits an online banking site. These types of attacks are increasing. There have been botnets controlled via Twitter for at least one year, and researchers found a number of example of Facebook profiles set up specifically for malicious activity. Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/attackers-moving-social-networks-commandand-control-071910

Blog platform closed down due to posting of terrorist material and bomb-making instructions. Web hosting company BurstNET Technologies has taken its blogging platform Blogetery.com down after a link to terrorist material, including bomb-making instructions and an al-Qaeda "hit list" was posted to the site. In a statement regarding the termination of service to Blogetry.com, BurstNET claimed that July 9, it received a notice of a critical nature from law enforcement officials and was asked to provide information regarding ownership of the server hosting Blogetry.com. It said: "Upon review, BurstNET determined that the posted material, in addition to potentially inciting dangerous activities, specifically violated the BurstNET acceptable use policy. "This policy strictly prohibits the posting of

'terrorist propaganda, racist material, or bomb/weapon instructions.' Due to this violation and the fact that the site had a history of previous abuse, BurstNET elected to immediately disable the system." Source: http://www.scmagazineuk.com/blog-platform-closed-down-due-to-posting-of-terrorist-material-and-bomb-making-instructions/article/174894/

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

(Wyoming) Yellowstone fire grows to 515 acres. Nearly 170 firefighters are battling a 515-acre wildfire burning in the backcountry near the center of Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Cooler, more humid weather July 21 helped firefighters who are building control lines around the west and southern edges of the fire, which is about 20 percent contained. Gusty winds were a factor July 20. The fire grew as small spot fires kept igniting standing trees as well as downed logs. Officials do not know yet how the fire started. A separate fire discovered July 20 near the Slough Creek Campground in the northeast corner of the park was quickly contained. Also in western Wyoming, fire managers have elevated the fire danger to "high" for Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest. Source: http://cbs4denver.com/wireapnewswy/Fire.crews.fight.2.1816595.html

(California) Suspicious drums found in California. The California Parks Service located several drums left in a field near White rock and Scott roads in Sacramento. Sacramento Metro Fire and the California Highway Patrol responded, and shut down roads until they determined what was in the drums. It turned out one was kerosene and because it is flammable it could have set fields on fire had it been ignited. Source: <a href="http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/suspicious-drums-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headlines-found-califold-real-to-headl

(Colorado) W. Colorado wildfire grows to 1,200 acres. A wildfire burning in Colorado's White River National Forest has grown to about 1,200 acres. The fire located 8 miles northwest of New Castle in western Colorado is not threatening any structures or private property. About 90 people are at the scene, but the fire is being allowed to burn in some areas to clear out vegetation and improve wildlife habitat. The terrain is difficult and firefighters are using equipment to remove heavy oak brush and trees and grind them into mulch. The mulch is being used on a fireline to keep the blaze from moving to the south and towards structures and water supplies. Source:

http://cbs4denver.com/news/Western.Colorado.wildfire.2.1814049.html

(Wyoming) Fire burning In Yellowstone National Park. A 385-acre wildfire is burning near the center of Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. A research flight discovered the fire burning two miles south of Beach Lake July 18. Gusty winds helped it spread from about a half acre to 150 acres July 18 and up to about 385 acres July 19. Two hotshot crews joined the fight against the fire July 19, boosting to 75 the number of people fighting the fire. Three helicopters and two air tankers are also being used. The fire is burning seven miles southwest of the Bridge Bay Campground. Park officials said all roads and trails remain open. Officials do not know yet how the fire started. It is the fourth fire this year in Yellowstone. Source:

http://cbs4denver.com/wireapnewswy/150.acre.fire.2.1812157.html

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

(Washington) White powder prompts brief lockdown at federal courthouse. The federal courthouse in Seattle was on a brief lockdown July 22 after a white powder was found in the mailroom. Seattle

firefighters were called at 2:17 p.m., just before the accused "Barefoot Bandit" — who was arrested recently and is suspected in the theft of at least five small aircraft, two cars and a boat, often fleeing the scene of his crimes barefoot — was to make an appearance in the courthouse. A hazardous materials response team from the fire department is investigating, a fire department spokeswoman said. Source: http://blog.seattlepi.com/seattle911/archives/215495.asp

(California) Suspicious powder sparks prison scare. A white powder found in inmate mail prompted officials to lockdown and evacuate a part of the federal prison in Victorville, California July 22, before the suspicious substance was found to be harmless, authorities said. Officials have not said what the material was. San Bernardino County Fire Hazardous Material crews and fire officials were called to the complex at 9:20 a.m. The powder was discovered during a routine check of inmate mail, according to a prison press release. FBI investigators were also called out. A section of the prison was evacuated and all inmates were placed on lockdown as haz-mat members and detectives investigated, officials said. No one was hurt during the operation, prison officials said. Authorities are investigating where the package came from. Source: http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/victorville-20613-area-white.html

(Massachusetts) Explosive delivery! man finds bomb in mailbox. Residents of a Rehoboth, Massachusetts neighborhood were terrorized after a man discovered a soda bottle bomb in his mailbox on Damascus Road July 19. The Rehoboth police chief said once the man realized what the bottle was, he immediately dropped it to the ground. He then looked around discovering two more bombs, one in the middle of the street and another by a bush in his yard. According to police, the bottle bombs were filled with acid. "Rehoboth police and fire responded. They set up a perimeter. Then we contacted the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad, who came out and examined the devices. They used one of their mechanical robots to disable the devices," said the police chief. Rehoboth and state Police are trying to discover whether the man was a direct target or a random victim. "It could have been anyone in the area. It could have been a mail carrier. It could have happened to anyone," the police chief said. One neighbor said that she is forwarding all of her mail to a post office box, while another neighbor said he installed a Webcam on the exterior of his home. Source: http://www.examiner.com/x-58809-Boston-City-Buzz-Examiner~y2010m7d21-Explosive-Delivery-Man-Finds-Bomb-In-Mailbox

PUBLIC HEALTH

Treatment curbs spread of HIV/AIDS. A National Institutes of Health (NIH)-supported study reported in the journal Lancet July 18, found HIV/AIDS treatment curbs the spread of HIV among drug users. Highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), currently known for its therapeutic benefits against HIV, also reduced the spread of the virus among people with a history of injection drug use, according to a population-based study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a component of NIH. HAART, a combination of drugs that target HIV at different points in its lifecycle, stops the virus from replicating. Though not a cure, HAART suppresses the virus, stopping disease progression and prolonging survival. In this study, Canadian researchers found that increasing levels of HAART coverage in British Columbia were strongly associated with decreases in new HIV diagnoses. Previous research had suggested that increased HAART coverage reduced the spread of HIV in the general population. The findings apply not only to the general population, but also to the subset of individuals with a history of injection drug use. Researchers analyzed information from two databases that

provide information on HAART use, looking at viral load, new HIV diagnoses, and HIV and viral load testing information in British Columbia, where residents are provided free access to HIV care. During three distinct time periods, researchers saw that the number of individuals actively receiving HAART had a strong impact on viral load and new diagnoses. As HAART coverage increased sharply, new HIV diagnoses decreased sharply. Source: http://www.dailypress.com/features/health/dp-health-notes-0722,0,5124590.story

(California) FDA warns Abbott on blood sugar monitors. In a letter dated July 2, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said its inspectors found Abbott's Freestyle and Navigator blood-glucose monitoring products produced in the firm's Alameda, California plant were adulterated and not conforming with codes for good quality system manufacturing practices. In the letter, the FDA said the company failed to address the manufacture of empty blister packs and finding of scratches on FreeStyle Lite test strips. The letter also cited the diabetes care unit for failing to establish and maintain adequate procedures for validating device design. Failure to promptly correct the violations may result in further regulatory action, the FDA said. Source:

http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE66J6TN20100720

(Massachusetts) Mass. hospital investigating the potential loss of back-up data for 800,000 individuals. South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Massachusetts, reported July 14 that back-up computer files containing personal, health and financial information for approximately 800,000 individuals may have been lost by a data-management company that was hired to destroy them. According to the hospital, files were sent to a professional data-management company for offsite destruction February 26. When certificates of destruction were not provided in a timely manner, officials said they pressed the data firm for an explanation and were finally informed June 17 that only a portion of the files had been received and destroyed. The hospital's investigation has revealed that the computer files contained personally identifiable information for patients who received medical services at South Shore Hospital — as well as employees, physicians, volunteers, donors, vendors and other business partners associated with the hospital — between January 1, 1996, and January 6, 2010. Source: http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/mass-hospital-investigatingpotential-loss-back-data-800000-individuals

(Pennsylvania) J&J says FDA finds problems at a third drug-making facility. Regulators have found manufacturing problems at a third Johnson & Johnson (J&J) drug-making plant, according to the company, which had already recalled several of its over-the-counter medicines due to manufacturing issues at two other facilities, one of which it closed. The Food and Drug Administration recently inspected J&J's Lancaster, Pennsylvania plant, and reported manufacturing problems to J&J, the company said July 19. The Lancaster plant is among four J&J facilities making over-the-counter pain and cold medicines, in addition to factories in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania; Las Piedras, Puerto Rico; and Guelph, Ontario in Canada. Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704720004575377583905061348.html

TRANSPORTATION

GAO: Highway bridge program needs more work. In a recent study, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) said much work remains to be done on the federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP), as

one in four bridges in the U.S. is either structurally deficient and needs repair or functionally obsolete. GAO said that while the condition of the nation's bridges are improving somewhat, the DOT could take further actions to enhance the impact of federal investment. For Fiscal Year 2010, states were given about \$7 billion through the HBP. "The HBP does not fully align with GAO's principles for re-examining surface transportation programs in that the program lacks focus, performance measures, and fiscal sustainability," GAO's report said. The HBP is not focused on a clearly identified national interest, GAO said. In other words, rather than improving deficient bridges, funding has been going towards preventive maintenance and other projects, which could include almost any bridge. Source: http://www.truckinginfo.com/news/news-detail.asp?news_id=71090

(Wisconsin) Flooding closes airport, opens sink hole in Wisconsin. Powerful thunderstorms and heavy rain caused widespread flooding in southern Wisconsin July 22, closing down Milwaukee's airport and opening up a giant sinkhole, and two people were hospitalized after being struck by lightning. The National Weather Service reported several tornadoes. At the height of the storm, a massive sinkhole swallowed a Cadillac Escalade at an intersection near downtown Milwaukee, and parts of the city saw up to 7.5 inches of rain in just two hours, according to the state division of emergency management. Dozens of flights were canceled at Milwaukee-General Mitchell International Airport, which closed around 9:30 p.m. when flood-waters began covering parts of the runways, an airport spokeswoman said. At one point, flooding also blocked outdoor ticketing and baggage claim areas. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/23/AR2010072301833.html

(Michigan) Police close portion of M-37 in Hastings to investigate possible bomb threat. Michigan State Police closed down a portion of southbound M-37 near M-79 in Hastings July 20 while a bomb squad investigated a suspicious device in a vehicle on the side of the roadway. Police dispatchers said authorities arrived on the scene about 9:15 p.m. after a driver pulled over and called police with concerns "there might have been some device in his car." State police from the Hastings post and deputies from the Barry County Sheriff's Department worked the scene. Source: http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2010/07/police_close_portion_of_m-37_i.html

(Tennessee) Dangerous green lasers target FedEx planes flying into Memphis. Investigators said three men tagged unsuspecting pedestrians, police officers, even a FedEx jet in Memphis, Tennessee with a dangerous green laser beam. After receiving complaints of a mysterious green light targeting objects in downtown Memphis, including several of their own officers, Memphis police traced the light to the roof of a nearby apartment building. The three men were arrested on charges of pointing a laser at an officer. Federal officials told the judge to keep the men locked up while FBI agents joined the investigation. Shining a laser at an aircraft is a federal offense. According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), lasers are being pointed at airplanes and helicopters at an alarming rate. Nearly 1,700 incidents have been reported by pilots across the country since January. The FAA confirms a green laser beam hit a FedEx plane on approach to Memphis International at 12:01 a.m. July 17, the same night Memphis police said the rooftop suspects were pointing their green laser at cops, choppers and tugboats. The jet was flying at 2,000 feet about 4 miles north of Memphis. Source: http://www.myeyewitnessnews.com/news/local/story/Dangerous-Green-Lasers-Target-FedEx-Planes-Flying/Y29Eh tyl0KDgOQ1 5svuw.cspx

(Rhode Island) City to install chemical sensor at port. The city of Providence, Rhode Island is preparing to install a new chemical-detection sensor system in the Port of Providence to enhance safety in the area. Providence's mayor, and the Providence Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) director made the announcement July 19. The chemical detectors, which will be paid for through a \$593,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security, will alert first responders to chemical hazards. The sensors are being developed and will be installed by Raytheon's Integrated Defense Systems in Portsmouth and Smiths Detection. The new sensors will be integrated with PEMA's Port Area Waterside Video Surveillance System (PAWSS), which enables the agency to respond immediately to emergency disasters involving vessels in Narragansett Bay. The system provides emergency response personnel with live camera feeds throughout the bay, between the port and the entrance to the bay in Newport. PEMA also recently installed a new Port of Providence Emergency Siren Warning System, which emits a loud alert and voice message to notify residents and visitors of emergency situations. Source: http://www.wpri.com/dpp/news/city-of-providence-pema-to-install-chemical-sensors-in-port-of-providence

WATER AND DAMS

Report: More than one out of three U.S. counties face water shortages due to climate change. Over 1,100 U.S. counties — more than one-third of all counties in the lower 48 states — now face higher risks of water shortages by mid-century as the result of global warming, and more than 400 of these counties will be at extremely high risk for water shortages, based on estimates from a new report by Tetra Tech for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). The report uses publicly available water use data across the United States and climate projections from a set of models used in recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) work to evaluate withdrawals related to renewable water supply. The report finds that 14 states face an extreme or high risk to water sustainability, or are likely to see limitations on water availability as demand exceeds supply by 2050. These areas include parts of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. In particular, in the Great Plains and Southwest United States, water sustainability is at extreme risk. Source: http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/report--more-than-one-out-three-us-counties-face-water-shortages-due-to-climate-change-98844559.html

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: Fusion Center (24/7): 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175
State Radio: 800-472-2121 Bureau of Criminal Investigation: 701-328-5500 Highway Patrol: 701-328-2455
US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 Bismarck FBI: 701-223-4875 Fargo FBI: 701-232-7241

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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